SUBJECT No. 57.

Translation of documents in the Chief Court.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The Chief Court has proposed that in non-print cases the documents on which parties rely should be translated into English and that, if not so translated, the documents will not be considered at all. The Government is requested not to sanction such a procedure.

Reply of Government.—There is no such rule as is referred to by the member with reference to non-print cases.

SUBJECT No. 58.

Merchants' accounts.

Mr. B. Kesavaiya, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Accounts maintained by merchants and sowcars in the course of business are admissible as evidence in courts of law. The account books maintained by some merchants are such as would allow of a leaf being easily taken out and a fresh one inserted without any chance of detection. This allows of deception being practised with impunity. Moreover foreign traders conducting business in the State write their accounts in a language (Guzarati) not known to the Mysoreans. This serves as a means of defrauding their customers.

It is therefore requested that Government might arrange to prescribe account books made in the Government Press and bearing the seal and signature of the Press Superintendent, and keep them available for sale to merchants at a proper price, and require the merchants to maintain their accounts either in Kannada or in English or if they keep them in their own tongue, to append an English translation thereto.

Reply of Government.—The suggestion is impracticable.

SUBJECT No. 59.

Grades of pleaders.

Mr. B. Kesavaiya, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—After five years' practice as 1st grade pleaders, graduates are allowed to get themselves enrolled as advocates. Non-graduate 2nd grade pleaders, however intelligent and deserving they may be, are not allowed to rise to the position of 1st grade pleaders, notwithstanding the length of their practice. It is desirable that after a practice of five years (or other period to be fixed by the Government), 2nd grade pleaders should be considered eligible for enrolment as 1st grade pleaders provided they are certified worthy of that grade by the court in which they conduct their practice.

Reply of Government.—Cannot be done.

SUBJECT No. 60.

Gun license.

(*a*) Messrs. B. Subramanya Bhatta and H. Subbaraya, Koppa Taluk.

(*b*) Mr. Krishnachar, Goribidnur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) There is considerable delay in obtaining renewals of gun licenses annually from District Magistrates. The Amildar Magistrate may be empowered to renew old licenses, fresh licenses being issued by the District Magistrate.

(*b*) Gun licenses may be renewed once in five years instead of annually.

(*a*) The members explained that difficulties were experienced by license-holders owing to the fact of their licenses for previous years being taken away by the authorities, which gave room for subordinate police officers to annoy the people.

Reply of Government.—(*a*) The question of empowering Amildar Magistrates to renew old licenses will be considered.

(*b*) Orders will be passed enabling officers to issue licenses for a period not exceeding three or four years if the stamp payable in respect of the application for the period for which the license is asked for is paid in a lump.

SUBJECT No. 61.

Game license fee.

Messrs. Bettagere Subramanya Bhatta and Halagar Subbaraya, Koppa Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The license granted on a two-rupee paper is restricted for use in the village where the licensee resides. This is hard. It may be made applicable to the whole taluk in which he resides.

Reply of Government.—Licenses referred to by the members will be made operative within the limits of the hobli in which the licensee resides.

SUBJECT No. 62.

The Criminal Investigation Centre Scheme.

Messrs. M. Venkataramaiya, C. Venkataramaiya and Chowdaiya, Channarayapatna Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The introduction of the Investigation Centre Scheme has caused very great inconvenience and delay in the investigation of crimes, since dafadars in charge of sub-stations are not authorized to take up such work. Investigating officers are few and hence it causes delay in the transmission of information regarding crimes. It is therefore prayed that dafadars may be authorized to investigate cases as before.

Reply of Government.—The scheme is yet in the experimental stage, having been only recently introduced. It is based on the principle that low-paid officers should not be entrusted with the power of investigating cases. The great objection to invest dafadars with this power is that good men cannot be had for the pay given to dafadars. There is no reason why competent dafadars should not be empowered to hold the investigation, in special cases.

SUBJECT No. 63.

Inquests.

Messrs. M. Venkataramaiya, C. Venkataramaiya and D. Chowdaiya, Channarayapatna Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As all the police dafadars in charge of police stations are not empowered to hold inquests in cases of unnatural deaths, the matter will have to be investigated by those police officers who are so empowered. This means a lot of delay and inconvenience particularly to Hindus who do not generally take their food till the dead body is disposed of. It is therefore prayed that this rule may be modified.

Reply of Government.—The existing rules allow investiture of police dafadars with the power of holding inquests. If special cases of hardship consequent on these